

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8651
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
FPA WASHDC
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USNATO 00366

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: NATO DEFENSE INITIATIVES: GAME PLAN

REF: (A) USNATO 00143 DTG 061906ZJAN78, (B) STATE 5856
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SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES OUR INITIAL THOUGHTS ON A
LTDP GAME PLAN FOR THE PERIOD FROM NOW UNTIL THE SUMMIT.
OF NECESSITY, ANY ESTIMATES OF DATES MAY HAVE TO BE MODI-
FIED AFTER WE SEE THE TASK FORCE REPORTS AND HAVE A BETTER
SENSE OF WHAT AND HOW MUCH THE EWG MUST DO IN ITS COMPRE-
HENSIVE REPORT TO PROVIDE AN ACCEPTABLE PACKAGE FOR MINIS-
TERS TO PRESENT AT THE SUMMIT. WE BELIEVE THAT PRIOR TO
1 MARCH THE EWG MUST AGREE TO A GAME PLAN ALONG THE LINES
OF THAT PROPOSED IN PART II BELOW, BECAUSE OF THE LIMITED
TIME AVAILABLE AFTER TASK FORCE REPORTS ARE SUBMITTED.
ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED GAME
PLAN. END SUMMARY.
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1. REF A PROVIDED A PROPOSED LTDP TIMETABLE WHICH THE
EDITORIAL BOARD DEVELOPED. OUR THOUGHTS ON A GAME PLAN
FOR THE PERIOD FROM NOW UNTIL THE SUMMIT ARE OUTLINED
BELOW IN TWO PARTS: (A) THE PERIOD UP TO 1 MARCH, WHEN
TASK FORCE REPORTS ARE DUE; AND (B) THE PERIOD AFTER 1
MARCH, WHEN THE LTDP EMPHASIS SHIFTS FROM THE TASK FORCES

TO NATO HEADQUARTERS.

PART I - EVENTS PRIOR TO 1 MARCH

2. WASHINGTON FINAL INPUT TO TF'S. THIS ACTIVITY IS PROCEEDING NOW.

3. WASHINGTON COMMENT ON DRAFT REPORTS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT MANY TF'S PLAN TO FORWARD DRAFT REPORTS TO CAPITALS FOR COMMENT. WASHINGTON WILL RECALL, HOWEVER, THAT TF'S ARE NOT UNDER ANY OBLIGATION TO DO SO. WE RECOMMEND, THEREFORE, THAT WASHINGTON NOT HOLD BACK A US INPUT IN ANTICIPATION OF FOLDING IT INTO US COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT REPORTS.

4. WASHINGTON PROGRAM DIRECTORS VISIT NATO TASK FORCE DIRECTORS. WE NOTE THAT RADMS BURKHALTER AND FRUDDEN ARE PLANNING TO VISIT THE DIRECTORS OF TASK FORCES 1 AND 3 RESPECTIVELY. WE RECOMMEND THAT WASHINGTON CONSIDER HAVING ALL US PROGRAM DIRECTORS VISIT THEIR LTDP TASK FORCE COUNTERPARTS EITHER TO HAND-CARRY COMMENTS ON DRAFT TF REPORTS OR TO PROVIDE THE FINAL MAJOR US INPUT. WE BELIEVE THIS PERSONAL CONTACT COULD HAVE A BENEFICIAL EFFECT IN GAINING ACCEPTANCE OF US IDEAS EARLY IN THE PROCESS AND LEAVE THE EWG FREE TO DO BATTLE WITH THE REALLY TOUGH NUTS TO CRACK.

5. EWG CIRCULATE FINAL REPORT FORMAT. WASHINGTON WILL RECALL THAT AT THE LAST EWG MEETING, THE FINAL REPORT FOR-CONFIDENTIAL

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MAT WAS AGREED SUBJECT TO SOME US SUGGESTED CHANGES TO THE SPREAD SHEET (WHICH WE CIRCULATED ON 18 NOVEMBER). WE HAVE PRESSED MUMFORD ON THE NEED FOR A FINAL REPORT FORMAT. HOWEVER, HE HAS INDICATED HE PREFERS TO WAIT TO ISSUE A FINAL FORMAT UNTIL AFTER THE OBERAMMERGAU SYMPOSIUM DISCUSSIONS ON THE LTDP. SINCE TASK FORCE DIRECTORS ARE NOT YET BEING DELAYED IN THEIR REPORT PREPARATION, WE HAVE NOT PRESSED MUMFORD FURTHER. INDEED, WE FIND SOME MERIT IN HIS DESIRE TO WORK OUT A PRELIMINARY ACCOMMODATION ON THE SPREAD SHEET AT OBERAMMERGAU.

6. EWG ESTABLISHES GAME PLAN. WE BELIEVE THAT CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION OF THIS ASPECT WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE DEFENSE PLANNING SYMPOSIUM AT OBERAMMERGAU NEXT WEEK. WE WOULD EXPECT ASYG MUMFORD TO CIRCULATE A DRAFT GAME PLAN (SIMILAR TO THAT WHICH WE PROPOSE IN PART II BELOW) AFTER HE RETURNS FROM OBERAMMERGAU. THE EWG COULD APPROVE IT AT A MEETING IN EARLY FEBRUARY.

PART II - GAME PLAN, 1 MARCH - 30 MAY 1978

7. OUR INITIAL THOUGHTS ARE THAT A SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FROM RECEIPT OF TASK FORCE FINAL REPORTS UNTIL THE
WASHINGTON SUMMIT MIGHT LOOK LIKE THE FOLLOWING:

1 MARCH: TF DIRECTORS SUBMIT FINAL REPORTS; ONE COPY TO
EWG CHAIRMAN PANSA, ONE COPY TO CMC ZEINER GUNDERSEN.
ACCORDING TO THE IS, LATEST INDICATIONS ARE SEVERAL REPORTS
COULD RUN ABOUT 200 PAGES EACH. IS EXPECTS TO MAKE DISTRI-
BUTION TO NATIONAL DELEGATIONS WITHIN ABOUT 48 HOURS. WE
EXPECT TO TAKE EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES TO GET COPIES BACK TO
WASHINGTON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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8 OR 9 MARCH: EWG MEETING, WITH TF DIRECTORS PRESENT, AS
A "TEMPERATURE TAKING" SESSION. WHILE WE WOULD HOPE TO
HAVE INSTRUCTIONS FROM WASHINGTON, OTHER DELEGATIONS MAY
NOT BE ABLE TO PRESENT INSTRUCTED VIEWS. STILL, DELEGA-
TIONS SHOULD BE ABLE TO OFFER SOME JUDGEMENTS ON THE
REPORTS, MEASURING THEM AGAINST CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY
TF TERMS OF REFERENCE AND THE DECISIONS OF THE DPC AND EWG.
13 - 17 MARCH: HILEX. SOMETIME DURINGTHATWEEK, WE WOULD
EXPECT THE IS TO CIRCULATE THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE EWG
COMPREHENSIVE REPORT. THIS REPORT MAY HAVE MANY ROUGH
EDGES AND SOME BLANK SPOTS, AND WILL PROBABLY REFLECT
PRETTY FAITHFULLY THE CONTENT OF THE REPORTS THEMSELVES,
WITH SOME POSSIBLE MODIFICATION BASED ON ANY GENERAL CON-
SENSUS EMERGING FROM THE 8-9 MARCH EWG MEETING.

21 - 23 MARCH: EWG MEETING TO CONSIDER NATIONAL VIEWS ON THE INDIVIDUAL TF REPORTS AND TO START, AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, A REVIEW OF THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE CONFIDENTIAL

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REPORT. THIS MEETING COULD BE REINFORCED FROM CAPITALS AND HAVE TF DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE AS WELL, AND MIGHT LAST AS LONG AS TWO AND ONE HALF DAYS, STARTING TUESDAY MORNING THE 21ST AND ENDING BY NOON ON THE 23D.

24 - 27 MARCH: EASTER WEEKEND.

29 - 31 MARCH: IS CIRCULATES SECOND DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE REPORT BASED UPON THE PREVIOUS WEEK'S EWG MEETING.

3 - 14 APRIL: DURING THIS PERIOD, THE EWG COULD HOLD A SERIES OF MEETINGS, ONE EVERY TWO OR THREE DAYS, WITH THE IS CIRCULATING BETWEEN MEETINGS UPDATED VERSIONS OF THE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, OR PORTIONS THEREOF. THE OBJECTIVE WOULD BE TO PRODUCE THE DRAFT DOCUMENT THAT THE DPC(PS) WILL ADDRESS (DPC/D(78)...DRAFT). THE NOTIONS OF CATEGORIZATION AND OF FRAMING THE COMMITMENT(S) MAY WELL HAVE BEEN INJECTED PRIOR TO THIS SERIES OF MEETINGS, BUT IT IS HERE THAT THE EWG WILL REALLY HAVE TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THESE NOTIONS AND DO SOME SORTING.

17 - 21 APRIL: THIS IS THE WEEK OF THE NPG MINISTERIAL MEETING IN COPENHAGEN. DPC/D(77)16 SPECIFIES THAT THE EWG WILL HAVE ITS COMPREHENSIVE REPORT READY FOR PERMREPS BY 18 APRIL; REF A INDICATES THE EDITORIAL BOARD IS AIMING MORE FOR 21 APRIL. IN ANY EVENT, WE WOULD HOPE TO SEE THE IS CIRCULATE DPC/D(78)...(DRAFT) THE WEEK OF THE NPG MINISTERIAL.

24 - 28 APRIL: IF DELEGATIONS HAVE TOO MANY PROBLEMS WITH THE DRAFT DPC DOCUMENT, THE EWG COULD MEET THIS WEEK FOR FURTHER WORK ON THE DOCUMENT BEFORE IT GOES TO PERMREPS.

4 OR 5 MAY: DPC(PS) ADDRESSES THE DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE CONFIDENTIAL

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REPORT. IF NECESSARY, PERMREPS COULD MEET AGAIN ON THE REPORT THE FOLLOWING WEEK.

18 - 19 MAY: DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING.

30 - 31 MAY: WASHINGTON SUMMIT.

8. FROM THE ABOVE, WASHINGTON WILL NOTE THAT WE SEE THE CRITICAL ACTION AS THE EWG'S TURNING FAIRLY QUICKLY FROM REVIEW OF THE INDIVIDUAL TASK FORCE REPORTS TO THE JOB OF PRODUCING A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT SUITABLE, IN LAYOUT AND LEVEL OF DETAIL, FOR PRESENTATION TO MINISTERS. THE PROGRAMS IN THE TF REPORTS WILL REPRESENT FIXED RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TF. THE MALLEABLE PROGRAMS WILL BE THOSE EXTRACTED BY THE IS FOR THE DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, AND WE BELIEVE THE EWG MUST CONCENTRATE ITS TIME AND ATTENTION ON THEM RATHER THAN ON THE TF REPORTS. WE WOULD HOPE TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY WITH THE IS IN EACH STAGE IN THE DRAFTING OF THE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT. GLITMAN

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